



## San Francisco Department of Public Health

Grant Colfax, MD  
Director of Health

City and County of San Francisco  
London N. Breed  
Mayor

# Director's Report for Health Commission Meeting of May 16, 2023

*A current overview of issues affecting the state of public health in San Francisco*

<https://www.dph.org/dph/comupg/aboutdph/insideDept/dirRpts/default.asp>

*Today, there are over 198,881 San Francisco residents with confirmed cases of COVID-19. And, sadly, a total of 1,202 San Franciscans have died. The San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH) sends our condolences to their loved ones.*

### **SAN FRANCISCO ENCOURAGES MPOX VACCINATIONS IN ADVANCE OF THE SUMMER SEASON AND PRIDE CELEBRATIONS**

DPH is encouraging all those who want protection from mpox (formerly known as Monkeypox) to receive both doses of the mpox vaccine to prevent a rise in cases this summer.

Last year, DPH and the community came together to stop the spread of mpox, and over 50,000 doses of the vaccine have been administered in San Francisco. As the summer months and celebrations surrounding Pride approach, now is the ideal time for people to ensure they are protected.

While anyone who wants protection from mpox infection may seek a vaccine, DPH strongly recommends and encourages 2-dose vaccination for all people living with HIV, anyone taking or eligible to take HIV PrEP, and all men, trans people, and nonbinary people who have sex with men, trans people, or nonbinary people. These groups are likely to be among those most affected if mpox cases were to increase again in San Francisco.

Individuals can receive their second dose of the mpox vaccine if it has been at least 28 days since their first dose. It takes two doses to be fully vaccinated against mpox, and there is no need to restart the two-dose series if it has been over 28 days since the first dose.

Building from last year's successful, community-based vaccination efforts, DPH, in partnership with Folsom Street Events and the Leather and LGBTQ Cultural District, will be offering first and second doses of the mpox vaccine at SOMA Second Saturday events in May and June. The first event is on Saturday, May 13.

**Mpox Vaccination Events**  
**Event: SOMA Second Saturdays**



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**Location:** 12th Street between Folsom and Harrison Streets

**Dates:** Saturday, May 13 and Saturday, June 10

**Time:** 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm

If you received your first dose on May 13, you will be eligible for your second dose by the Saturday, June 10 event and will receive maximum immunity before Pride. We will keep the community informed when more events are confirmed in the future. Since no vaccine is 100 percent effective, it is important for individuals to reduce their risk of potential exposures to mpox both before and after being vaccinated.

The mpox vaccine remains available across San Francisco. Health systems, community clinics such as the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's Strut clinic, and DPH-affiliated sites, including our SF City Clinic, continue to offer vaccines, tests and other mpox resources. For more information about the vaccine and where to get one, please click [here](#).

### *STI Prevention*

In addition to the mpox vaccine, there are more steps people can take to help ensure optimal sexual health. It is important for sexually active people to get tested for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI's) such as gonorrhea and syphilis, and to know their HIV status. There are also preventative drugs available such as HIV PrEP and a newer prevention tool for certain bacterial sexually transmitted diseases: doxy-PEP.

Doxy-PEP is an antibiotic that when taken after sex reduces your chance of acquiring syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia by about two-thirds. In San Francisco, doxy-PEP is recommended for cis men and trans women who have had a bacterial STI in the past year and have reported condomless anal or oral sexual contact with at least one cis male or trans female partner in the past year. DPH is proud to be the first in the nation to issue guidance on doxy-PEP.

For information on STI testing, HIV PrEP and doxy-PEP, please visit DPH's SF City Clinic [website](#).

### **NURSES WEEK AT DPH**

DPH celebrated National Nurses Week from May 6 through May 12. The theme this year was *You Make a Difference* and our more than 1,600 nurses at DPH make a big difference in the lives of San Franciscans every day. To celebrate, Laguna Honda's nursing team hosted food trucks and distributed healthy snacks, appreciation cards, and tote bags. Nurses also received a video message of appreciation from Laguna Honda leaders and there were banners displayed throughout the



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hospital to express gratitude. Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital celebrated Nurses Week with deep appreciation and gratitude for the amazing work that ZSFG nurses do every day. They celebrated with festivities that included the delivery of special treats to all of the units and an Awards Ceremony at Carr Auditorium on May 11 honoring staff. Please join me in congratulating the 29 nursing recipients at ZSFG Daisy Awards, Being Extraordinary Everyday (BEE) Award, and O'Connell Society Award. These awards recognize exceptional caring, integrity, connections, quality, professionalism, commitment to patient care and clinical expertise.

In addition to our hospitals, we celebrate all of our nurses who are providing care at neighborhood clinics, respite programs, supportive housing sites, in shelters and navigation centers, in-home care, through our population health clinics, in our county jails and in schools, day cares and community centers all over the city. On behalf of DPH, I want to thank our nurses for their exceptional service and for being on the frontlines of healthcare every day.

### **MUNICIPAL HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM PARTNERSHIP WITH PAINTCARE**

The Environmental Health Branch has a program called the Municipal Hazardous Waste Program. This program is primarily tasked with the proper disposal of the hazardous waste generated by city departments. They also respond to the removal and disposal of hazardous waste abandoned on city sidewalks or public areas. There are typically three (3) Senior Inspectors assigned to this program who have been trained to properly analyze and profile abandoned waste so that it can be properly disposed of at a licensed facility.

A large percentage of the hazardous waste illegally abandoned in San Francisco is paint and paint related waste. California's paint stewardship law requires the paint manufacturing industry to develop a financially sustainable and environmentally responsible program to manage postconsumer paint. In response to this law, paint manufacturers established PaintCare, a nonprofit organization that recycles paint. PaintCare is funded by a fee everyone pays when they purchase paint. For instance, a one (1) gallon container of paint has a California fee of \$.65. The Municipal Hazardous Waste Program formed a partnership with California's PaintCare recycling program in 2017. Since that time, we have recycled about 170,000 lbs. of paint and saved the city about \$165,000 in disposal fees. Sr. Inspector Humberto Quinonez was recently invited to speak at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Statewide Conference on Illegal Dumping held in Oakland. This conference was an opportunity to inform other local jurisdictions about our partnership with PaintCare and our on-going efforts to both prevent illegal dumping in San Francisco and to dispose of street waste in a way that is environmentally responsible.



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### **COVID-19 UPDATE**

As of 5/3:

- San Francisco's 7-day rolling average of new COVID cases per day is 33 and 43 people are hospitalized, including 5 in the ICU.
- Eighty-six percent of all SF residents have been vaccinated and 65% have received booster dose(s). Forty percent of residents have received a bivalent booster.

[DPH in the News](#)